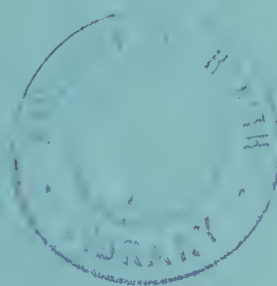


Library

THE CITY OF DURHAM CORPORATION.



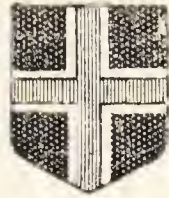
ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
AND OTHER RECORDS
FOR 1957.

R. GORDON DRUMMOND, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

DURHAM
G. BAILES & SONS, PRINTERS, ETC.

1958.

THE CITY OF DURHAM CORPORATION.



ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
AND OTHER RECORDS
FOR 1957.

R. GORDON DRUMMOND, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

DURHAM
G. BAILES & SONS, PRINTERS, ETC.

1958.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH :

R. GORDON DRUMMOND, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. (Also Medical Officer of Health Durham Rural District, Brandon and Byshottles Urban District, Assistant County Medical Officer County Durham).

SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR :

LESLIE OATES, C.R.San.I., M.A.P.H.I.

ADDITIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR :

JOHN BITTLESTONE, C.R.San.I., M.A.P.H.I.

RODENT OPERATIVE :

MR. F. C. SUMMERS.

CLERICAL STAFF :

MRS. J. WILBY, Clerk.

MISS J. M. CLARK.

To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report for the year 1957.

The vital statistics continue to be comparable with those for recent years and for Durham County and England and Wales as a whole, and in so far as they do so, indicate a satisfactory state of health and well-being in the City. The infant mortality rate is higher than in the two previous years but not significantly so in view of the small number of deaths involved. Consideration is given for the first time this year to the perinatal mortality rate, the figure for which is also not remarkable.

The only infectious disease which occurred in unduly large numbers was measles, and fortunately it presented in mild character and there were no deaths caused by it. That this is so is attributable, probably, not only to the present mild character of the disease (and it has not always been so) but also to the efficacy of modern methods of treatment and, especially, to the generally improved state of health and nutrition of children.

Two outbreaks, one of food poisoning and the other of paratyphoid B fever, are reported.

Reference is made to the disappointing, and surprising, decline in immunisation against diphtheria. It is to be hoped that parents will not come to disregard the protective measures against disease which are available for their children, because it is largely owing to the success of these measures that they are not presented with constant reminders in the form of the occurrence of cases.

The domiciliary laundry service is another measure designed to help the elderly people in the community and like the chiropody service (which is now in its fourth year) is greatly appreciated. It offers another example of the practical value of co-operation between the various interests, National Health Service and voluntary agencies, dealing with the treatment and welfare of old people.

As in previous years I have valued the cordial relations maintained with medical practitioners, both in general and hospital practice, and the County Medical Officer and his staff.

I welcome this opportunity of thanking you, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen, for your support and encouragement, the Senior Public Health Inspector, Mr. L. Oates and the staff of the Health Department for their unfailing help throughout the year and the Officers of the Council for their co-operation.

I have the honour to be,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

R. GORDON DRUMMOND.

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS.

Area in acres ... 4,578.

Registrar-General's estimate of resident population :—20,890.

Number of inhabited houses end of 1957 :—6,104.

Rateable value, :—1956 :—£305,490, 1957 :—£310,725.

Sum represented by a 1d. rate, 1956 :—£1,280 15s. 2d.
1957 :—£1,154 18s. 10d.

Registrar General's area comparability factors :—

Births 0.97

Deaths 0.96

LIVE BIRTHS.

	MALE.	FEMALE.	TOTAL.	
Legitimate ...	137	144	281	Rate per 1,000 pop- ulation 13.79 Adjusted 13.4.
Illegitimate	5	2	7	
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	
Total	142	146	288	
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	

STILL BIRTHS.

Legitimate	4	3	7	Rate per 1,000 total Live and Still Births, 27.02.
Illegitimate	1	—	1	
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	
Total	5	3	8	
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	

DEATHS.

All causes	128	120	248	Rate per 1,000 pop- ulation, 11.8. Adjusted, 11.4.
------------------	-----	-----	-----	--

INFANT MORTALITY (Deaths of children under 1 year of age) :

Legitimate	4	3	7	Rate 27.7 (per 1,000 live births).
Illegitimate	—	1	1	
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	
Total ...	4	4	8	
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	36
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	—
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	—

NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

Area.

4,578 Acres. The City borders on the North, East and South with Durham Rural District and on the West with Brandon and Byshottles Urban District.

Population.

The Registrar General's estimate of the mid-year population is 20,890 an increase of 430 from 1956.

Inhabited Houses.

The number of inhabited houses is 6,104.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Births.

During the year 288 live births were registered. 142 males and 146 females. Of these 7 were illegitimate.

There were 4 fewer births than in 1956.

The birth rate (adjusted) of 13.4 is to be compared with that of 13.8 for last year.

Deaths.

248 deaths were registered, 25 more than in 1956 and the death rate (adjusted) of 11.4 compares with that for 1956 when it was 10.8

The table of causes of death shows that Diseases of the Heart and Circulation accounted for 82 of the deaths registered, or 33%.. Deaths from Cancer number 36 compared with 29 in 1956.

74% of all deaths occurred in persons over the age of 65.

Infant Mortality : (Deaths of children under 1 year of age).

The rate of 27.7 per 1,000 live births was higher than last year when it was 20.5. The lowest recorded rate in the City was in 1952 when it was 19.4.

The figure for England and Wales for 1957 is 23.1.

8 children died before reaching one year of age.

The actual numbers for the past 10 years are :—

1948	...	...	8	1953	...	...	8
1949	...	...	11	1954	...	...	13
1950	...	...	13	1955	...	...	6
1951	...	...	14	1956	...	...	6
1952	...	...	6	1957	...	...	8

and these numbers should be read in conjunction with the rates given in the table and should be borne in mind in assessing the change in the rate over the years. As the numbers of infant deaths each year are comparatively small, too great significance should not be attached to a single rate.

Of the 8 children who died before reaching one year of age four were less than one month old, three being less than 1 week.

Of these four, two died of conditions associated with congenital abnormalities.

Consideration of the infant mortality is not complete without consideration at the same time of the still births. The number of still births and the number of deaths in the first week of life taken together represent the mortality occurring at or about the time of birth—the perinatal mortality rate, the combined still-births and deaths in the first week of life per 1,000 total births.

In the year under review this was 37.2.

The following table shows the perinatal mortality rate in recent years compared with the rates for Durham County and England and Wales :—

	1954	1955	1956	1957
Durham City	44.5	42.1	30.4	37.2
Durham County	42.6	42.0	40.1	39.8
England and Wales	38.1	37.6	36.8	36.2

Maternal Mortality.

There was one maternal death during the year, the first since 1953.

DEATHS AT VARIOUS AGE PERIODS.

All Ages.	0—1	1—	2—	5—	15—	25—	45—	65—
248	8	—	1	3	4	8	40	184

INFANT MORTALITY.

Cause of Death.	Under 1 wk.	1—2 wks.	2—3 wks.	3—4 wks.	Total under 1 mth.	1—3 mths.	3—6 mths.	6—9 mths.	9—12 mths.	Total
Congenital Malformations ..	1	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	2
Respiratory Disease ..	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	3
Asphyxia ..	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Birth Injury ..	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Gastro-enteritis ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1

BIRTH RATE, DEATH RATE, AND INFANT MORTALITY
OVER TEN YEARS.

	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957
Birth Rate	17.9	15.4	16.8	14.4	17.6	16.9	14.3	13.1	13.8	13.4
Death Rate	9.9	11.0	10.9	11.0	11.3	11.9	11.8	11.8	10.8	11.4
Infant Mortality	32	35	22	47	19.4	26.8	45.3	21.6	20.5	27.7

TABLE COMPARING THE BIRTH RATE, DEATH RATE AND ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1957 OF ENGLAND AND WALES, ETC., WITH THAT FOR DURHAM CITY.

	Birth Rate per 1,000 Population	Rate per 1,000 total Live and Still Births	Death Rate per 1000 Popula- tion.	Infant Mortality (Rate per 1,000 live Births).
	Live Births.	Still Births.	All Causes.	
England and Wales	16.1	22.5	11.5	23.1
160 County Boroughs and Great Towns, including London ..	16.1	22.5	11.5	23.5
160 Smaller Towns (Estimated Resident Populations 25,000 to 50,000 at Census 1931)	16.0	23.2	11.4	23.5
Administrative County of Durham	18.4	25.3	11.3	27
Durham City	13.4	27.0	11.4	27.7
London	16.2	20.0	11.4	21.9

CAUSES OF DEATH IN DURHAM BOROUGH, 1957.

Cause of Death.	Total	M.	F.
ALL CAUSES	248	128	120
Tuberculosis, respiratory	4	4	—
Tuberculosis, other	1	1	—
Syphilitic disease	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—
Whooping cough	—	—	—
Meningococcal infections	1	—	1
Acute poliomyelitis	—	—	—
Measles	—	—	—
Other infective and parasitic diseases	1	—	1
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	11	3	8
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	5	3	2
Malignant neoplasm, breast	2	—	2
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	1	—	1
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	16	10	6
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	1	—	1
Diabetes	—	—	—
Vascular lesions of nervous system	29	11	18
Coronary disease, angina	34	22	12
Hypertension with heart disease	10	4	6
Other heart disease	29	9	20
Other circulatory disease	9	3	6
Influenza	2	1	1
Pneumonia	21	15	6
Bronchitis	12	9	3
Other diseases of respiratory system	1	1	—
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	2	2	—
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	2	1	1
Nephritis and nephrosis	4	2	2
Hyperplasia of prostate	1	1	—
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	1	—	1
Congenital malformations	1	—	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	31	18	13
Motor vehicle accidents	5	2	3
All other accidents	10	5	5
Suicide	—	—	—
Homicide and operations of war	1	1	—

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

Prevalence of, and control over, Infectious and other Diseases.

Scarlet Fever : There were six notifications ; all the cases being admitted to hospital. Last year there were seven notifications.

Whooping Cough : There were 44 cases notified, compared with 46 last year. An immunising agent exists which is administered by family doctors or at the Child Welfare Clinics.

Acute Poliomyelitis : There were no notifications. The scheme for vaccination against poliomyelitis commenced during the previous year was continued, sessions being conducted at the Maternity and Child Welfare Centre at 14, Old Elvet.

During the year arrangements were made to extend it to all children over six months old born in the years 1943-57, expectant mothers and certain other groups.

Measles : 466 cases were notified, the highest number since the disease was made notifiable in 1939. Previously the highest figure was 293 in 1948.

Last year there were only 12 cases. No deaths were attributed to measles.

Diphtheria : For the fifth successive year there were no cases of diphtheria.

The tables of diphtheria immunisation figures show that records were received of 143 children under the age of five having received during the year a full course of primary immunisation as against 192 in 1956.

601 children under five years old had completed a full course of immunisation by the end of the year. It is estimated that this represents only about 46% of those children eligible for immunisation. This is a low figure. Parents should understand that absence of cases does not constitute grounds for discontinuing immunisation against diphtheria.

During 1957 in England and Wales there occurred 40 cases, of whom six died.

The County Medical Officer of Health arranges that in order to draw attention to the need for immunisation, leaflets are distributed by post at eight months and twelve months and, to encourage re-inforcing doses at the age of four years nine months. These give details of the facilities available.

Dysentery : There were three cases notified. Two were children from other districts diagnosed in hospital here. The third was a young woman living in the City.

Paratyphoid Fever : Of the four cases notified, one was in respect of a case from elsewhere diagnosed in hospital here and not connected with the others.

The other three were connected cases and constituted a small outbreak in hospital. Two wards were concerned, two of the cases occurring (as a cross infection) in one and the third in another. The connecting link between the wards was a nurse who had been in attendance on the case which was later deemed to be the original one, the source of infection. This nurse, before the diagnosis was made, had been transferred to work on the other ward. In the course of the investigation which was undertaken she was found to be a carrier of the organism responsible (paratyphoid B, phage type I)

In the circumstances it is fortunate that this outbreak was so circumscribed in character, and the fact that it was so must be attributed to the energetic and thorough measures which were undertaken by those responsible in the hospital immediately the occurrence was known. It is worth noting that the food handling and serving methods could not be incriminated as contributing to the spread which did occur, these were, in fact, found to be excellent. The potential for such outbreaks in hospital must be great, it is surprising that they do not occur more often.

Meningococcal Infection : Of the cases notified only three occurred in patients from the City, all unconnected. One, a child of six years died.

Food Poisoning : The 21 cases notified constituted a single outbreak of food poisoning occurring in a hospital. The cause was a bacterial intoxication due to an organism (C1. *Welchii*) which was isolated in the laboratory from specimens from patients affected.

The illness was severe in about one third of those affected, moderate in the others.

is thought

The food responsible was mince, partly cooked on the day before it was served, and some made up into shepherd's pie, and then cooked before serving hot at lunch time.

The origin of the infection or contamination of the food could not be discovered but the determining factor was almost certainly the reheating of the meat dish, a practice which must be regarded as a defect in cooking technique. *no, in such circumstances*

Tuberculosis : The number of new cases of pulmonary tuberculosis, 20, was the same as that for last year. There were four new non-pulmonary cases, and only one last year. When the figures for the past ten years are considered it is obvious that there is no sign of diminution, in fact the new cases exceed the average for the previous ten years. Half of the new cases of pulmonary tuberculosis occurred among women aged between 15 and 45 years, and 5 cases (or one quarter of all the new cases of pulmonary tuberculosis) occurred in women between 25 and 35 years old. This is in keeping with experience elsewhere in the country, young women being recognised as a particularly vulnerable group where this disease is concerned.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES REPORTED DURING THE YEAR

DISEASE.	Total Cases Notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Deaths.
Scarlet Fever	6	6	—
Whooping Cough	44	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—
Paralytic			
Non-Paralytic			
Measles	466	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—
Pneumonia	3	2	21
Dysentery	3	3	—
Smallpox	—	—	—
Acute Encephalitis	—	—	—
Infective			
Post-Infectious			
Typhoid Fever	—	—	—
Paratyphoid Fever	4	4	—
Erysipelas	1	—	—
Meningoccal infection ..	18	18	—
Food Poisoning	21	21	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—

TUBERCULOSIS.

AGE PERIODS.	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 — 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 — 5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5 — 10	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
10 — 15	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
15 — 20	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
20 — 25	1	1	1	1	—	—	—	—
25 — 35	1	5	—	—	—	—	—	—
35 — 45	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
45 — 55	1	1	—	—	1	—	1	—
55 — 65	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
65 and Upwards	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
TOTALS	8	12	1	3	4	—	1	—

NEW CASES AND DEATHS IN PAST 10 YEARS.

					Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
					New cases.	Deaths.	New Cases.	Deaths.
1947	..	..	..	..	24	5	8	0
1948	..	..	..	..	11	5	5	1
1949	..	..	..	..	11	2	1	0
1950	..	..	..	..	25	8	3	0
1951	..	..	..	..	24	5	4	1
1952	..	..	..	..	9	3	3	1
1953	..	..	..	..	20	4	3	1
1954	..	..	..	..	12	3	1	0
1955	..	..	..	..	13	5	2	1
1956	..	..	..	..	20	4	1	0
Average for 10 years ..					16.9	4.4	3.1	0.5
1957	..	..	..	..	20	4	4	1

CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS ON REGISTER.

	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Total.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
31st December, 1956	85	57	13	9	98	66
31st December, 1957	89	69	12	12	101	81

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION, 1957.

Live Births Registered.		Number of children who had completed a full course of immunisation at any time up to 31st December, 1957.		Records received during the year of full courses of primary immunisation.			Records received during the year of reinforcing injections.
1956	1957	Under 5	5—15	Under 5	5—15	Total.	0—15
292	288	601	1621	143	4	147	58

Number of children who had completed a full course of immunisation at any time up to the 31st December, 1957.

Under 1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1957	1956													
8	130	135	174	154	176	174	203	178	205	135	106	90	180	174

TOTAL = 2222

CHIROPODY SERVICE FOR OLD PEOPLE.

Report for the year ending 31st December, 1957.

GILESGATE CENTRE.

Introduction.

1957 was the fourth year of operation of this chiropody clinic conducted at the Vane Tempest Hall, Gilesgate, on behalf of the Durham Old People's Welfare Association.

Sessions were held on Monday mornings and afternoons and on Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons, 8 appointments being made for each session.

Mr. E. L. Chambers, M.Ch.S. continued as chiropodist.

Voluntary Assistance.

The British Red Cross Society provided a total of 940 hours attendance.

The Durham Samaritan Society which furnished the equipment at the outset continued to subscribe the cost of dressings.

Treatment.

During the year clinics were held on 146 days during which there were 193 clinic sessions of three hours.

At the full number of eight per session this would have allowed 1,544 treatments whereas the actual number given was 1,431 representing 93% of the possible.

The average number of treatments given each session was 7.4.

The number of persons on the list on 1st January, 1957, was 209 and the number of persons treated for the first time during the year was 27. During the year, however, 63 names were removed from the list either because of death, withdrawal from the scheme or because no appointments had been made over a period. The number on the list at 31st December, 1957, was 173.

The volume of requests for treatment was such that appointments could be made only for sessions about one month in advance.

SHAKESPEARE HALL CENTRE.

Introduction.

This was the first full year of operation of this Chiropody Clinic which was commenced on 25th September, 1956.

Like the one at Gilesgate it is conducted on behalf of the Durham Old Peoples' Welfare Association and Mr. E. L. Chambers, M.Ch.S., is the Chiropodist.

Sessions are held on Tuesday and Wednesday mornings each week.

Voluntary Assistance.

The British Red Cross Society provided a total of 531 hours attendance.

The Durham Samaritan Society which provided the equipment have also continued to subscribe the cost of dressings.

Treatment.

Clinics were held on 100 days, there being 100 clinic sessions of three hours. 728 treatments given represent 91% of the possible 800.

The average number of treatments per session was 7.3.

The number of patients on the books on 1st January, 1957, was 104, and on 31st December, 1957, 119.

REMARKS.

The two Chiropody Clinics have continued to operate quietly and efficiently throughout the year, and to make their not inconsiderable contribution towards the health and comfort of nearly 300 old people in the city.

That this is so reflects great credit on all those associated with the scheme—Chiropodist, Voluntary Helpers and the old people themselves who attend so well, sometimes in the face of considerable difficulty because, for example, of inclement weather or indifferent health.

The figures on which this report is based were furnished by Mrs. S. E. Allan, Deputy Divisional Director, from the clinic records which are kept by the British Red Cross Society. I have the greatest pleasure in acknowledging her help in this as in other related matters.

SUMMARY.				<i>Gilesgate.</i>		<i>Shakespeare Hall.</i>	
				<i>1956</i>	<i>1957</i>	<i>1956(part)</i>	<i>1957</i>
Sessions	...	...	...	200	193	26	100
Days on which sessions held	...	...	...	111	146	26	100
Treatments given :							
Possible	...	...	...	1,600	1,544	208	800
Actual	...	...	...	1,493	1,431	197	728
				(93%)	(93%)	(95%)	(91%)
Treatments per session :							
Possible	...	...	...	8	8	8	8
Actual average	...	...	...	7.5	7.4	7.6	7.3
Hours by Red Cross Voluntary							
Workers	...	...	...	1,082	940	156	531
Charge (per treatment)	...	...	...	2/-			

CHIROPODY SERVICE.

REVENUE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1958.

EXPENDITURE.				INCOME.					
<i>Gilesgate. Shakespeare. Total.</i>				<i>Gilesgate Shakespeare. Total.</i>					
	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	
Chiropodist—Fees ..	281	18	6	144	18	0	426	16	6
Dressings, etc. ..	31	18	4	17	15	8	49	14	0
Rent, 5.2.1957-31.12.1957 ..			43	10	0	43	10	0	0
Cheque Book									

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES.

1. *Public Health Services of the Local Authority.*2. *Laboratory Services.*

- (i) Dryburn Hospital, Department of Pathology.
- (ii) Public Health Laboratory, General Hospital, Westgate Road, Newcastle.
- (iii) County Analyst, Shire Hall, Durham.

3. *General Medical Services.*

Durham County Executive Council, 20, New Elvet,
Durham

Ten medical practitioners in general practice reside in the City and an approximately equal number who reside elsewhere have part of their practices within it.

4. *Newcastle Regional Hospital Board.*

Walkergate Hospital, Newcastle.

*Durham Hospital Management Committee, Dryburn Hospital,
Durham.*

(a) *General.*

- (i) Dryburn Hospital, Durham.
- (ii) County Hospital, Durham.
- (iii) Crossgate Hospital, Durham (Long Stay).

(b) *Maternity.*

- (i) Dryburn Hospital.
- (ii) Croxdale Maternity Hospital (until May, 1957).

(c) *Infectious.*

- (i) Chester-le-Street Isolation Hospital.
- (ii) Langley Park Isolation Hospital (Smallpox).

(d) *Tuberculosis.*

- (i) Dryburn Hospital, Durham.
- (ii) Isolation Hospital, Chester-le-Street.
- (iii) Chest Clinic, Earl's House Hospital.
- (iv) Mass Miniature Radiography Unit, Havelock Hospital, Sunderland.

(e) Mental.

- (i) Winterton Hospital, Sedgfield.
- (ii) Aycliffe Hospital.
- (iii) Prudhoe and Monkton Hospital.
- (iv) Earl's House Hospital.
- (v) Crossgate Hospital, Durham.

(f) Pre-Convalescent.

Brandon Hospital.

(g) Venereal Diseases Clinic.

County Hospital, Durham.

5. *Durham County Council, Health Services.**(a) School Health Services.*

Since September, 1957, the school clinic has been housed in new premises at Kepier Crescent.

(b) Ambulance Services.

The ambulance control is situated at County Ambulance Headquarters, Framwellgate Moor, Durham, and there are nine ambulances, one light sitting case vehicle and two cars. In an emergency any responsible person may summon an ambulance by telephone by asking to be connected to the nearest ambulance control (no telephone number need be given).

(c) Health Visiting.

There is one Health Visitor, parts of the City being served by the Student Health Visitors.

(d) Home Nursing.

Three nurses, all residing in the City, are engaged in this work.

(e) Domiciliary Midwifery.

There are four midwives practising thus.

(f) Domestic Help.

This is provided for households where such help is required owing to the presence of any person who is ill, an expectant mother, lying-in, mentally defective, aged or a child not over school age.

(g) Vaccination and Immunisation.

(h) Care of Mothers and Young Children.

- | | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| (i) Child Welfare Centres | } 14, Old Elvet, Durham.
Kepier Crescent, Durham |
| (ii) Artificial Sunlight Clinics | |
| (iii) Birth Control Clinics | |
| (iv) Post Natal Clinics | |

(i) Prevention of Illness, care and after care.

Under this heading comes the provision of nursing equipment for sick persons. Invalid chairs are also available.

(j) Welfare Services.

Services are provided for Blind Persons and other Handicapped Persons.

Residential accommodation is provided for persons who by reason of age, infirmity or other circumstances, are in need of care and attention which is not otherwise available to them.

(k) Mental Health.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS, 1948 AND 1951.

No action was taken during the year involving Section 47 relating to removal of persons in need of urgent care and attention.

DOMICILIARY LAUNDRY SERVICE FOR OLD PEOPLE.

This is a service operated by the Hospital Authority and the British Red Cross Society which was commenced during the year (in May) with the aim of helping elderly sick people in the area. It was felt that in many cases, old people who were ill had their admission to hospital expedited, or their discharge from hospital delayed, because of adverse home conditions, or because of the burden of nursing them at home. Especially in cases of incontinence one of the heaviest tasks in home care is that of the patient's laundry.

Briefly the scheme operates as follows. The articles for laundering are collected from the households concerned twice weekly by the British Red Cross Society Ambulance and conveyed to Crossgate Hospital Laundry. When laundered they are returned similarly when another batch is being collected. The Home Helps co-operate (where they are in attendance) by helping to prepare the articles for collection and where necessary "rough sluicing" them.

Those eligible are old people who are ill or disabled. The inclusion of any case is decided by a member of the Hospital Staff and the Medical Officer of Health acting in conjunction and the patient's family doctor is consulted. No charge is made. Articles dealt with are defined as "bed-linen and sleeping attire", but these terms are given a fairly wide interpretation.

It was thought that the number of households to be dealt with at any one time would be small, and this has been proved correct in practice. However an upper limit of ten was set. To begin with there were four and this number rose to seven by the end of the year, two single women, four aged couples and one family where the husband is bedridden and the only daughter crippled.

They were situated in Durham City and in Durham Rural District. The mileage covered on each day of operation was about 25, the round taking about two hours.

Recommendations for inclusion come usually from the family doctor, hospital Almoner or Domestic Help Organiser.

The success of such a scheme is difficult to measure. It is thought to have saved hospital beds, although to what extent cannot be estimated. It is known that in one household Home Help could be discontinued once the laundry was being dealt with and in another two would have been required if it had not been for the laundry service. Certainly the recipients were most grateful and in some cases recognised the part it played in enabling them to

continue to live at home. There is no doubt about its success as an exercise in co-operation, all the members of the Hospital Authority who were involved, and of the British Red Cross Society, have sought to ensure that any difficulty which arose would be overcome and every assistance required has been given by the family doctors. The Home Help Service has, of course, been closely concerned and helped throughout.

DURHAM.
September, 1958.

To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my annual report for the year 1957.

Work under the Food Hygiene Regulations has proceeded satisfactorily this being in no small measure due to the co-operation of the food traders.

Whilst formal slum clearance work has, as yet, not been proceeded with this part of the Department's work has not been neglected. A small area comprising eight houses in the Sidegate area are being vacated as quickly as the Council are able to re-house tenants and are remaining vacant pending demolition by agreement with the owner. These properties should be demolished in 1958. Further properties at Old Durham and High Yard are being dealt with in the same manner and it is anticipated that such informal procedure should be possible in other cases.

Formal action relating to other proposed slum clearance areas will probably commence in 1958.

It was anticipated that the Rent Act of 1957 would result in a considerable amount of extra work in the Department but this has not proved to be the case and there have been few applications for certificates of disrepair.

Many persons (owners and tenants) have, however, asked for advice on the provisions of the Act and have been helped so far as is practicable.

I should like to take this opportunity of expressing my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee and the Medical Officer of Health, Dr. R. Gordon Drummond, for their kindly support during the past year and also to acknowledge the assistance and co-operation of Mr. Bittlestone and the Staff of the Health Department and other Officials of the Council.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

LESLIE OATES,
Senior Public Health Inspector.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S GENERAL SUMMARY
SUBMITTED TO COUNTY COUNCIL FOR YEAR 1957.

	No. of inspections	No. of INFORMAL Notices served.	No. of STATUTORY Notices served.	Defects remedied after Notice.
Housing :				
Public Health and Housing Acts	1,440	65	—	52
Overcrowding	4	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences :				
Insufficient	4	2	—	2
Defective	64	30	—	20
Drainage	178	50	1	50
Water Supply	15	1	—	1
Food Premises	374	27	—	29
Shops Act	11	—	—	—
Dairies	10	1	—	1
Slaughter Houses :				
Public	—	—	—	—
Private	131	1	—	1
Tents, Vans, etc.	3	—	—	—
Offensive Trades	—	—	—	—
Factories & Workplaces	76	7	—	7
Keeping of Animals	75	2	—	2
Insanitary Ashpits & Receptacles	82	36	—	37
Offensive accumulations	30	12	—	12
Smoke Nuisances	50	1	—	1
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949	999	2	—	2
Totals	3,546	237	1	227

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS : HOUSING ACT, 1949.

	No. of separate houses.
(a) Applications submitted to Local Authority ...	13
(b) Applications rejected by Local Authority ...	—
(c) Total No. of applications approved since incep- tion of scheme	49

HOUSING STATISTICS.

General Inspection of District.

1. Number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health and Housing Acts)	774
2. Dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation...	13
3. Dwelling houses (exclusive of two above) found not to be in all respects fit for human habitation	140
4. Total number of visits to houses including re-inspections	1,440

HOUSES IN CLEARANCE AREAS AND INDIVIDUAL
UNFIT HOUSES.

A. Houses Demolished.	Number.	Displaced.	
		Persons.	Families.
In Clearance Areas (Housing Acts 1936/57)	4	26	14
Not in Clearance Areas and as a result of formal or informal procedure (Housing Acts 1936/57)	—	4	2
B. Unfit Houses Closed.			
In pursuance of undertaking under Section 11 H.A. 1936 or Section 17 H.A. 1957 ..	5	11	5

C. Repairs to Houses.	Number.
Unfit houses made fit and houses in which defects were remedied :—	
(a) After informal action under Public Health and Housing Acts	147
(b) After formal action under P.H. Acts	1
(c) After formal action under Housing Acts	—

INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT.

During the year 1,383 inspections were made of properties in the District. It was found necessary to serve 180 informal notices for the remedying of various public health nuisances and the majority of such notices received the prompt attention of the owners or occupiers of the properties concerned.

In three cases of non-compliance statutory notices were served on the owners.

This action resulted in the owners carrying out the necessary works in two cases and the Corporation doing the work in default and recovering costs in one case.

759 visits were made with the object of seeing that notices were complied with.

HOUSING AND SLUM CLEARANCE.

During the year under review 117 houses were erected in the City Area comprising 56 council houses and 61 privately built houses.

At 31st December, 1957, the number of council houses and flats erected since the war totalled 1,129.

The total number of houses built for and controlled by the Council was, at the date mentioned, 1,769. In addition to these properties the Council have the letting, when vacant, of any of the 365 houses owned by the North Eastern Housing Association Ltd.

At 31st December, 1957, eighteen properties in confirmed slum clearance areas (occupied by seven families and sixteen single persons) were still in use. A further thirty-six properties are vacant and awaiting demolition which cannot, in most cases, conveniently be carried out until adjoining properties are vacated.

Re-housing of single persons as mentioned in my 1956 report still presents a problem. Although the number has been decreased from twenty-six at December, 1956, to fifteen at December, 1957, a good deal of difficulty is still experienced in persuading these single elderly persons that it is in their own interests to leave these dilapidated old buildings.

RENT ACT, 1957.

As mentioned in my foreword surprisingly few applications have been received for Certificates of Disrepair.

One can only assume that this may be due to :—

- (a) Owners having complied with tenants requirements as to repairs.
- (b) The inability of some tenants to properly understand their rights under the Act and
- (c) the fact that some owners have not taken full advantage of the increases of rent allowed or as is the case in some of the poorer properties have made no increase whatsoever.

The following table shows the position as to applications dealt with during the period from 6th July, when the Act came into force and 31st December, 1957 —

RENT ACT, 1957.

Period covered by return : 6th July to 31st December, 1957.

Part I.—Applications for Certificates of Disrepair.

(1)	Number of applications for certificates	...	...	7
(2)	Number of decisions not to issue certificates	...	...	Nil
(3)	Number of decisions to issue certificates	...	...	7
	(a) in respect of some but not all defects	...	...	5
	(b) in respect of all defects	...	...	2
(4)	Number of undertakings given by landlords under paragraph 5 of the First Schedule	...	...	6
(5)	Number of undertakings refused by Local Authority under proviso to paragraph 5 of the First Schedule...	...	...	Nil.
(6)	Number of Certificates issued	...	...	1
	There were no Applications for Cancellation of Certificates.			
(7)	Applications by landlords to Local Authority for cancellation of certificates	...	...	Nil.
(8)	Objections by tenants to cancellation of certificates	...	...	Nil.
(9)	Decisions by Local Authority to cancel in spite of tenants' objection	...	...	Nil.
(10)	Certificates cancelled by Local Authority	...	...	Nil.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES INVESTIGATION DISINFECTION AND VERMIN DISINFESTATION.

40 visits were made in connection with infectious diseases. Disinfection was carried out at 12 premises where bedding and articles of clothing, etc., were also treated.

24 premises, of which 22 were council houses, were disinfested.

Treatments for vermin disinfestation were also carried out at hospitals and colleges.

RODENT CONTROL.

Sewer Maintenance Treatments : In accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries two maintenance treatments of the City's sewers were carried out during the year. A total of 649 manholes were baited showing pre-bait takes in 81 manholes and poison takes in 81. The results show a slight increase in sewer infestation, as compared with previous years.

Surface Infestations : All Council properties likely to become infested received periodical visits and treatments as required. The River Banks also received attention.

All cases of infestations in school canteens and hospitals were promptly attended to.

The Council continue to take full advantage of the Ministry's offer of grant aid, which, for the year under review will be half the irrecoverable expenditure incurred in the performance of functions under Part I of the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

The following table is a summary of the rodent control work carried out during the year :—

	Dwelling Houses.	Business Premises.	Other Infested Places.	Totals
No. of Premises				
Visited	299	188	263	750
No. of visits	386	287	326	999
No. of Pre-baits	104	203	668	975
No. of Poison-baits	1,521	3,691	843	6,055
No. of Post-baits ...	165	346	56	567

DRAINAGE.

The following particulars relate to drainage work carried out by the Department during the year :—

New drainage systems laid	...	...	...	...	69
Drainage systems reconstructed	...	...	...	...	16
Defective drains repaired	...	...	...	...	10
Choked drains cleared	...	...	...	...	33
Inspection chambers built	...	...	...	...	11
Ventilation provided to drains	...	...	...	...	1
New gullies fixed	...	...	...	...	16
Other drainage defects remedied	...	...	...	...	7
Smoke tests applied to drains	...	...	...	...	5
Water tests applied to drains	...	...	...	...	85
Colour tests applied to drains	...	...	...	...	23

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS.

There were no licences granted for the use of moveable dwellings during the year 1957.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 AND 1948.

Premises. (1)	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ..	24	18	2	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ..	69	48	1	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	10	10	—	—
TOTAL	103	76	3	—

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found.				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
	Found	Remedied.	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspect'r	By H.M. Inspect'r	
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ..	1	1	—	1	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) insufficient	1	1	—	1	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	—	—	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	1	1	—	—	—
TOTAL	3	3	—	2	—

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

FOOD PREMISES IN DURHAM CITY.

<i>Trade.</i>							<i>Number.</i>
Bakers	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Butchers	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Confectioners	...	...	...	...	...	...	35
Dairies and Purveyors of Milk					...	...	38
Fish, Game and Poultry				...	...	...	7
Fried Fish...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
General Dealers	...	...	...	...	...	...	29
Greengrocers and Fruiterers				...	...	...	15
Grocers and Provision Merchants					...	...	32
Hotels, Cafes and Snack Bars	...			...	...	...	20
Ice Cream dealers		...	...	...	...	...	67

MILK SUPPLY.

The following licences were issued by the Council :—

1. Under the provisions of the Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised) Milk Regulations :—

“ Pasteurised ” Milk Dealers Licences	...	...	12
“ Pasteurised ” Milk Dealers Supplementary Licences			8
“ Sterilised ” Milk Dealers Licences	...	...	37
“ Sterilised ” Milk Dealers' Supplementary Licences			3

2. Under the provisions of the Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations :—

“ Tuberculin Tested ” Milk Dealers Licences	...		3
“ Tuberculin Tested ” Milk Dealers Supplementary Licences	...	...	4

Registered premises have been inspected during the year in order to ensure that the various provisions of the Regulations were being complied with.

REGISTRATIONS UNDER SECTION 16 FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955.

ICE CREAM.

One application for registration under the provisions of Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, for the sale of pre-packed ice cream was approved by the Council making a total of 67 premises registered for this purpose. Two firms are registered for the manufacture of ice cream.

Two samples of ice-cream obtained from producers were forwarded to the Public Health Laboratories, Newcastle, for bacteriological examination. These samples proved to be satisfactory.

PRESERVED FOODS.

15 butchers are registered for the preparation or manufacture of sausages, etc. and one firm for the preparation of pickled and preserved foods.

FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS, 1955-57.

Progress in connection with the requirements of the above Regulations was maintained during the year, practically all food premises having been supplied with the necessary washing facilities and provision made for the protection of open foodstuffs.

Preparation, storage and staff rooms were also visited and interviews with owners of premises where improvements were desirable received or are receiving attention.

The following table shows a considerable reduction in the amount of work carried out as compared with my report for 1956, this being due to the bulk of the improvements having been dealt with during that year—the year in which the new Regulations came into force :—

170 visits were made to premises affected by the Regulations and the following works were completed during the year :—

Equipment—repairs and renewals	...	...	...	1
Protection of open foodstuffs	...	...	...	8
Sanitary conveniences :				
Re-decoration	...	...	...	1
Additional provided	...	...	...	1
Provision of hot water supply	...	...	...	5
Provision of handbasins	...	...	...	3
Provision of sinks	...	...	...	1
Provision of first aid equipment	...	...	...	1
Provision of accommodation for clothing		...	...	1
Re-decoration and repairs	...	...	...	5
Improved ventilation	...	...	...	—
Waste bins supplied	...	...	...	4
Refrigerators fitted	...	...	...	—
Miscellaneous improvements	...	...	...	3

FOOD INSPECTION.

The following list shows the quantities of food that were found upon inspection to be unfit for human consumption. All food condemned was voluntarily surrendered and destroyed at the Council's incinerator :—

Bacon, 150 lbs.	Horse-radish Relish, 2 jars.
Beans, 1 lb.	Lard, 1 lb.
Biscuits, 1 lb.	Meat, 325 tins.
Broth, 1 tin.	Milk, 20 tins.
Butter, 3 lbs.	Pies, 7.
Cake, 25 lbs.	Prunes, 32 lbs.
Cereal, 12 packets.	Salt, 2 packets.
Cheese, 264 lbs.	Salmon & Shrimp, 2 jars.
Chicken, 1 tin.	Sausage, 15 lbs.
Chicken fillets, 1 tin.	Soup, 7 tins.
Chocolate, Rolls, 8.	Spaghetti, 4 tins.
Fish, 13 tins.	Sugar, 9 lbs.
Fruit, 313 tins.	Swiss Rolls, 2.
Gammon, 6 tins.	Tapioca, 2 lbs.
Geese, 6.	Vegetables, 108 tins.
	Yorkshire pudding mixtures, 29.

MEAT INSPECTION.

All animals slaughtered in local slaughter-houses were inspected.

132 visits were made in connection with such inspections and the following table gives details of animals slaughtered and meat and offals condemned :—

CARCASSES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED IN WHOLE
OR IN PART.

	Cattle Exclud- ing Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.	Horses.
Number killed ..	147	2	1	387	94	—
Number inspected ..	147	2	1	387	94	—
<i>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci</i>						
Whole carcasses con- demned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned	20	—	—	—	—	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with dis- ease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci ..	11.56	—	—	—	—	—
<i>Tuberculosis only :</i>						
Whole carcasses con- demned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned	3	—	—	—	—	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tub- erculosis ..	2.05	—	—	—	—	—
<i>Cysticercosis.</i>						
Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—

A total of 13 st. of condemned meat and offals was destroyed at the Council's incinerator.

Three slaughterhouses were licensed by the Council.

All the carcasses examined were of excellent quality and the standard of slaughtering carried out by the nine persons holding slaughtermen's licences was satisfactory.

Inspections :—

During the course of the year 384 visits were made to food premises.

WATER SAMPLING.

Water Supplies.

Six samples of tap water from Durham County Water Board mains were obtained for bacteriological examination by the Public Health Laboratory Service.

The resultant laboratory reports showed the samples to be very satisfactory.

Swimming Baths.

Six samples of water from the large and small swimming pools were obtained for bacteriological examination. All samples proved to be most satisfactory.

Results of such sampling were immediately notified to the Bath's Superintendent.

Lectures.

As in the past, talks on public health matters were given to interested organisations.

Lectures have been given to student nurses and boy scouts examined for their Public Health Man Badge.

SUMMARY OF WORK OF SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH
INSPECTOR'S DEPARTMENT.

Complaints received	...	...	...	...	...	211
Houses inspected	...	...	...	...	...	774
Houses re-inspected	...	...	...	...	...	666
Visits under Factories Act	...	...	...	...	...	60
Visits to food shops and food premises	...	...	...	...	...	300
Visits under Shops Acts	...	...	...	...	...	11
Visits in connection with defective or new drainage	...	...	...	...	...	178
Smoke, water and colour tests	...	...	...	...	...	113
Preliminary Notices served	...	...	...	...	...	180
Statutory Notices served	...	...	...	...	...	3
Visits to cases of infectious disease	...	...	...	...	...	40
Premises disinfected	...	...	...	...	...	12
Lots of bedding, clothing, etc. disinfected	...	...	...	...	...	22
Library books disinfected	...	...	...	...	...	—
Visits to verminous houses	...	...	...	...	...	24
Verminous premises disinfested	...	...	...	...	...	24
Interviews with owners, contractors, complainants, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	155
Visits to caravans	...	...	...	...	...	3
Inspections of rivers and streams	...	...	...	...	...	3
Inspections of common yards and passages	...	...	...	...	...	11
Inspections of public sanitary conveniences	...	...	...	...	...	8
Visits in connection with Rodent Control	...	...	...	...	...	999
Miscellaneous sanitary inspections	...	...	...	...	...	194

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938-1950

YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1957.

The work under this Act is performed by an Inspector of the County Council and during the past year, the following samples were submitted by him to the Public Analyst for examination :—

Aspirin (5 gr.) (Informal)	...	...	...	...	2
Bread (Informal)	...	...	...	...	1
Butter	...	...	...	...	1
Cheese	...	...	...	...	1
Cocoa	...	...	...	...	1
Cooking Fat	...	...	...	...	2
Flour	...	...	...	...	1
Icing Sugar	...	...	...	...	1
Jam	...	...	...	...	1
Lard	...	...	...	...	1
Milk, Pasteurised	...	...	...	...	37
Milk, Pasteurised, T.T.	...	...	...	...	22
Milk, Sterilised	...	...	...	...	1
Prunes, Tinned (Informal)	...	...	...	...	17
Rice	...	...	...	...	1
Shredded Beef Suet	...	...	...	...	1
Sugar	...	...	...	...	1
Tea	...	...	...	...	1
TOTAL					93

Two samples of prunes contained small amounts of tin in excess of the permitted allowance and the sample of bread contained a portion of a fly. This latter sample was submitted as the result of a complaint but after investigation and careful consideration, a caution was issued. All the remaining samples were reported genuine.

WATER SUPPLY.

The threat of a dry period in the early part of the summer of 1957 caused the Board to bring into use the emergency supply from Page Bank but this was done only to a limited extent and over a comparatively short period. Heavy rainfall in August replenished supplies.

The routine tests on raw and filtered water continued and 78% of the distributed water samples came within the Ministry of Housing and Local Government's Class 1.

Continual development took place on the improvement of treatment methods at the existing Filtration Plants and in particular the water from the Waskerley Slow Sand Filters which supply Durham City and the surrounding area, was much improved in colour and stability and this improvement has been maintained.

REFUSE COLLECTION, PUBLIC BATHS AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

The following information relating to Refuse Collection, Public Baths, Sewerage and Sewage Works has been supplied by the City Engineer whose Department is responsible for these undertakings.

Public Baths.

A four hour turnover with filtration and breakpoint chlorination is maintained at the swimming baths. Additional male changing accommodation is being completed.

Sewage Disposal.

Plans for the enlargement of the Barker's Haugh Sewage Works have been prepared and have been submitted to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government.

Approval has been received for the reconstruction of an inverted syphon across the River Wear at Elvet Bridge on the main Elvet and Church Street outfall sewer to Barker's Haugh Sewage Works

